

COUNTY TAX RATE IS 7 CENTS UNDER LAST YEAR

Rate for Town Again \$2.70

Budget for Coming Year Totals \$84,663; Tax To Raise \$35,495

Approximately \$64,243 Is Necessary to Meet Bond and Interest Payments

A rate of \$2.70 on the \$100 valuation was fixed by the town commissioners in session here last evening on local property, the rate being a duplicate of the 1934-35 levy. The requirements of the budget, those of debt service and interest especially, call for an increase of around \$8,155.55 for the fiscal year ending next June. Last year the budget called for \$76,507.43, as compared with \$84,663.84 this year. Based on a property valuation of \$1,296,115, the \$2.70 rate is estimated to raise \$34,495, leaving approximately \$49,168.08 to come from other sources.

The collection of prior year taxes will total \$23,483.94, it is estimated. The 1934 uncollected taxes representing a greater portion of the amount. The next largest single item is revenue from the water department, the budget showing an estimated revenue from that source of \$9,200. Paving assessments and interest thereon will amount to \$6,500, it is estimated. Privilege licenses, penalties on taxes, auto tags, and rents are estimated to raise around \$2,500.

The debt service offers the most serious problem in the scheduled expenditures for the period. Bonds falling due in the period call for \$37,500. Interest, another big item to be sure, is \$24,480, and these two items with one or two small notes total \$64,243.08. The next largest item is for general administration, the \$5,175 appropriated there caring for salaries of officials and other items such as tax listing, office supplies, insurance, telephone, repairs, and others.

Expenditures in the police department will be approximately \$4,835, salaries of the officers amounting to \$4,560. Street department expenditures are estimated at \$4,690, and those for the fire department at \$800. The town is planning permanent improvements to the extent of \$250, the entire budget outlay standing at \$84,663.08.

Negro Near Death as Result of Shooting Sunday Afternoon

Jim Moore Shot Twice By Guy Jones Near Spring Green Church

Jim Moore, 65-year-old colored man, was critically wounded last Sunday afternoon, when Guy Jones, 40-year-old colored man, fired two loads of gunshot into his face and shoulder. Last reports from Moore stated that he was unconscious and that his condition was critical. He was given medical attention at Oak City and was returned to his home on the old Purvis farm, in the Spring Green section, where the shooting took place about 4 o'clock Sunday afternoon.

Moore, convicted of murder in another county a number of years ago, and a man of alleged bad reputation, had given Jones, a tenant in the Spring Green section, much trouble during the past month. He was said to have chased Jones from a tobacco barn Sunday afternoon to the home of Mr. Ben Weaver. Jones later went to his own home, and Moore followed him there. Jones took his gun and went into the yard and he said to have urged Moore to leave, but to no avail. Moore started into the house and Jones fired, the first load taking effect in the side of the man's face. The second shot struck Moore in the shoulder and dropped him.

Moore, who was said to have been drinking at the time, had only recently served a sentence on the roads for an assault with a deadly weapon, and since his return from the roads he was said to have caused much trouble in the Spring Green section, where he held no regular job. He moved to this county about two years ago. Jones moved to this county about 10 years ago from Edenton, and is recognized as a law-abiding citizen.

Sheriff C. B. Roebuck and Deputy J. H. Roebuck were called and, after investigating the case, released Jones under a \$100 bond. Action in the case will await the outcome of Moore's wounds.

Dog Vaccinations Running Far Ahead Number Listed

Martin County's drive against rabies continues to meet with a marked success, Sheriff C. B. Roebuck, in active charge of the campaign, stating this week that the total vaccinations passed the 2,000 mark last Saturday. Robersonville and Cross Roads Townships reported 799 vaccinations, or considerably more than the number of dogs listed on the books for taxation.

Vaccinations have been reported to date, as follows: Goose Nest 375; Hamilton 167; Hassell 186; Poplar Point 149; Williamston 382; Parmelee 90; Gold Point 151; Robersonville 335; Cross Roads 113; and Everetts 110; making a total of 2,058.

Arrangements are being made to hold clinics in the four remaining townships within the next few days, probably the latter part of this week, Sheriff Roebuck said. Much delay has been experienced in getting the vaccine, but orders for about 1,000 doses are now standing and the clinics will be arranged just as soon as the vaccine arrives.

The vaccinations in this township will be completed tomorrow afternoon, Sheriff Roebuck estimating that there are approximately 75 or 100 dogs yet to be treated in this district. It is estimated that there are only about 1,500 to 1,800 dogs listed on the tax books of the county.

Many Farmers Losing Part of Tobacco Crop

W. S. FAULK ONLY COLORED MAN ON SEPTEMBER JURY

Several Young Men Called For Jury Service for Their First Time

For the first time in a generation a colored citizen was selected by the board of commissioners at their regular meeting Monday to serve as a member of the jury in the Martin County Superior Court. W. Sam Faulk, highly respected colored man of Williamston, and a leader among his race, is scheduled for service during the first week of the next term of court convening the third Monday in September.

Observing recent court rulings, the Martin County commissioners decided to include colored citizens as members of the superior court juries, but only a few names were placed in the box. Faulk's name was among the first drawn for service.

Judge E. H. Cranmer, of Southport, is slated to preside over the two weeks term of court beginning September 16, when both civil and criminal cases will be called.

The jury list for the first and second weeks, by townships, is as follows:

Jamesville: J. F. Jordan, and G. H. Burnett.

Griffins: P. E. Getsinger, H. L. Hardison and W. D. Manning.

Bear Grass: Arthur Peel and W. O. Peel.

Williamston: Mack T. Simpson, Marion Cobb, John A. Wier, J. A. Leggett, W. I. Skinner, Exum L. Ward, John D. Lilley, K. P. Lindsey, M. A. Price, George C. Jenkins, and W. S. Faulk.

Cross Roads: W. S. Bailey and Paul Bailey.

Robersonville: T. W. Roberson, R. S. Everett, J. G. Everett, H. B. Bowen, Edward James, A. R. Johnson, George R. Roberson, L. N. Vick, and J. G. Smith.

Poplar Point: D. A. Roebuck.

Hamilton: R. E. Downs, Asa Johnson.

Goose Nest: Roland Sills, S. V. Sills, Paul Bellflower, and Robert Hux.

Second Week

Jamesville: T. M. Whitaker, David Modlin, and R. C. Jordan.

Williams: T. M. Hopkins and John A. Lilley.

Williamston: E. D. Keel, R. T. McClaron, George S. Moore, and Walter Halberstadt.

Cross Roads: J. H. Wynn.

Robersonville: Jasper Perkins, P. T. Norwood and Minton Beach.

Poplar Point: E. H. Roberson and A. R. Johnson, sr.

Hamilton: J. W. Eubanks.

Goose Nest: R. K. Thompson and Jodie P. Faithful.

The names of several jurors appear on the list for the first time, including that of Faulk and several promising young white boys. There are several seasoned to the work, however, and at least one faithful member, when taking a name at its face value.

Recent rains in Nash County will increase the tobacco yield by 100 to 150 pounds an acre, reports County Agent H. G. Wharton.

Shortage of Barns Is Reported All Over Bright Leaf Section

Loss In This County Alone Expected To Run Into Thousands of Dollars

Unfavorable weather this season is ripening tobacco in the fields of this section so rapidly that farmers are finding it impossible to handle the harvesting in time to prevent heavy losses. All available barns have been brought into use, but even then much tobacco is burning up in the fields, causing, it is estimated, a loss that will run into thousands of dollars in this county alone. A few new barns have been built overnight, but 99 per cent of the farmers have been unable to meet their last-minute curing needs by constructing additional barns.

The search for available barn rooms reached a climax a few days ago, when one or two farmers in Poplar Point made arrangements to haul tobacco to barns below Plymouth for curing. Hauling green tobacco from one neighborhood to another has been frequent throughout a greater part of the county, reports state.

While curings are turning out very well for some farmers, others state they are finding it difficult to get good curings. In many instances the curing starts out well, but when high heat is applied, the golden color fades and the leaf becomes spotted and black and has little body or "life," the farmers state.

Those farmers who have adequate barn space are said to be pulling the crop twice each week, and are then harvesting it hardly fast enough.

Several Are Slightly Hurt by Lightning Bolt Here Sunday

Damage Done To Griffin and Harris Homes During Severe Electrical Storm

Julian Jackson, young white boy, was stunned but not badly hurt and several other people were shocked lightly and considerable damage resulted to property last Sunday afternoon when lightning struck the homes of Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Griffin in New Town and Mr. and Mrs. Tom Harris on North Houghton Street. No one was in the Harris home when the bolt struck and tore a sizeable hole in the roof. The lightning jumped to the electric wiring and tore up the meter and radios, but did not fire the building.

The Griffin home in New Town was fired, and the electric wiring and every light bulb were burned out. Mrs. Griffin, who was at home, escaped uninjured, but the Jackson boy, who lives two doors away, was knocked to the floor as he walked in the hall near the back door. No one was in the Everett home, next to the Griffins, when the bolt struck there.

Alfalfa produces the highest quality of hay that can be grown in North Carolina, say livestock experts.

MARTINS IN TIE WITH AYDEN FOR FOURTH PLACE

Team Enters Last Part of Season Without Full Quota of Players

Losing to Ayden, 12 to 8, yesterday, the Martins locked horns with the Pitt County team for fourth position in the Coastal Plain League, the two teams having 27 victories and 25 losses to their credit. It now looks as if it is either going to be Williamston or Ayden left at the gate when the little world series opens the latter part of this month. Last Saturday, Ayden was trailing by a game and a half, but the margin was wiped out by a victory over New Bern Sunday, while the Martins did not have a league game, and a win at the expense of the Martins yesterday. The Martins are figuring on breaking the tie at the expense of Ayden this afternoon here.

Goldsboro was whipped twice last week by the Martins, Cassell pitching the first win at Goldsboro Friday, and Gaddy, Gardner, Abbott and Cherry working on the mound to figure in the Martin's victory here Saturday. Goldsboro lost the first encounter, 6 to 2, and the second by a score of 10 to 5. Herring yielded 6 hits and 5 runs in the Saturday game during the first three innings and was relieved in the fourth. The first five men in the Martin's line-up made two hits each during the game.

The Ayden team made 10 hits and 12 runs in a loose game of ball with the Martins Monday. Ayden led during all the game with the exception of a short period in the first half of the eighth when the Martins staged an attack to score four runs and lead 8 to 7. House and Leary homered in the eighth to place the Martins in front. Two were on when House hit for the full route. Gardner was relieved in the eighth with the score tied, one out and three men on bases. Cherry went in and four runs were added, errors figuring in the scoring, it was said.

The Martins, with Corbitt still out, continue under handicaps. The regular shortstop was scratching a bad case of "mad itch" last night following anti-tetanus treatment given when he was hurt Sunday before last in the exhibition game with Windsor. He is expected back in the line-up shortly, however. Sid Hyatt, the heavy hitting right fielder from Wadesboro, wired last Saturday that he could not report for duty. A substitution is not possible, and the Martins go into the last of the season with an abbreviated force.

Number Important Matters Taken Up at Town Board Meet

Plan To Refund Past Due Bonds; Add Member To Police Force

The refunding of \$19,000 past due Town of Williamston bonds and a few other issues maturing this year was considered further by the local commissioners at a regular meeting last night. Mayor John L. Hassell, Treasurer N. C. Green, and Town Attorney R. L. Coburn are scheduled to go before the Local Government Commission in Raleigh Thursday to complete plans for refunding the bonds. The past-due bonds bear 6 per cent interest, and it is believed that the rate can be lowered on those and probably several issues falling due within the next few months.

Medicine shows and other allied types of entertainment common during the tobacco marketing season here were ruled a nuisance by the commissioners at their last night meeting, and the board ordered all permits to conduct such shows be withheld. It was pointed out that one of the tricky salesmen last fall sold a mixture of turpentine and linseed oil as a "cure" for all ills. He made a number of dollars, and the purchasers were just cheated.

A fourth policeman, John S. Gurganus, a brother to the late Frank Gurganus, who was night officer here for many years, was employed for night duty. Officer J. H. Allsbrooks was promoted to day officer, going (Continued on back page)

Fixed at \$1.43 at Meeting of Commissioners Held Monday

Hot Weather Hatches Eggs Before They Can Be Cooked

It was agreed that the past weekend was a scorcher, but it required an incident during the meantime to prove just how hot it was here. A farmer deliver a dozen "fresh" eggs here Saturday to a merchant. The merchant sold the eggs, and before the purchaser could get the eggs into the frying pan on Sunday three of the number hatched. Two other chicks appeared later, and yesterday all of the biddies but one were living. The hot weather made an incubator and the old setting hen unnecessary.

And, speaking about hot weather, some local people turned to their bath tubs to dodge the heat, but found it necessary to place ice in the water to cool off. The mercury slipped up to 101 in the shade. A thunderstorm and a heavy rain cooled things off a bit, but for a short while only, and today the mercury was trailing by only a few degrees the readings of yesterday and the day before.

Leaf Marketing Cards Are Being Prepared

Will Be Distributed TOWN'S FINANCES IN GOOD SHAPE AUDIT REVEALS

Farmers Will Be Notified Shortly When To Call for Marketing Slips

Employees in the office of the county agent are busily preparing tobacco marketing cards for the coming season, Assistant Agent M. L. Barnes announcing that the slips would be ready for distribution in plenty of time for the opening of the markets on August 26. The first deliveries will probably be made week after next, but the growers will be notified as to definite distribution dates later. Mr. Barnes pointed out that it would be unnecessary for farmers to call for the cards before the distribution dates were definitely announced.

Approximately 1,500 cards are being prepared, 92 of the number going to farmers with special contract bases. The exact poundage Martin farmers will be allowed to market tax-free is not available at this time.

The cards carry the maximum allotment, or 95.6 per cent of the base poundage. If the grower sells the entire amount on his card he gets no parity payment. If he sells only 85 per cent of the poundage represented on the marketing card he will receive a payment amounting to 6 1/4 per cent of the parity price. The parity payment reduces proportionately as the sales increase above the 85 per cent of the parity price. The parity price was figured at 12 per cent when the grower sold only 70 per cent of his base, a proportionate reduction following as the percentage of pounds increased.

Knowing that most of the farmers will use only one card for marketing their tobacco, the office is preparing only one card for each farm. However, any landowner desiring more than one card will be issued as many as he wants. Those landlords who want more than one card will find it advisable to call at the office of the agent and explain how many cards he wants and to whom they are to be issued. The cards will be prepared as directed in those cases and deliveries will be made along with the others before the markets open, or probably some time about week after next.

"Imitation of Life" at the Watts Thursday-Friday

In the Watts Theatre program carried in this paper last Friday, a slight error appeared in the picture title for Thursday and Friday of this week. The title should have been "Imitation of Life" instead of "Imitation of Love." The picture features Claudette Colbert, and has a high entertainment rating.

Paul Godwin Continues Critically Ill at Asheville

Paul Godwin, popular young man of this place, continues critically ill in an Asheville hospital. Mrs. Erath Cobb, Dillon Cobb and Benjamin Hopkins left here this morning to see him.

With crops laid by, many farmers in Piedmont counties are making tours of their own and neighboring counties to inspect farming operations on demonstration farms.

Property Valuation Totals \$10,750,000 in County As Whole

Commissioners Allot \$800 for Forestry Service In This County

Martin County's tax rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1936, was tentatively set at \$1.43 on the \$100 property valuation by the commissioners in regular session here yesterday. The rate is 7 cents under the figure in effect for the year ending last June, the reduction being reflected in the school fund, debt service, and an increase in property values over 1934. The budget estimate will not be available before the latter part of the week, as a summary has to be prepared from the whole. The \$1.43 rate was determined at the Monday meeting, following a several hour review and discussion of the various funds with their income and expenditures at a special session last Saturday. Property values were placed at \$10,750,000.

The other important feature to the board activities at the regular meeting was the adoption of a forestry fire service in cooperation with the State Department of Conservation and Development program. The service call for an appropriation of \$800 during the next five years, and the program will be handled by officials of the department. Several state forestry officials attended the meeting and explained the work, which will be instituted in the county immediately, or just as soon as arrangements can be completed by the state authorities. It is understood that the service will be mandatory within a short time, and the Martin authorities went ahead and made provision for it without coercion. The \$800 appropriation by the county is matched by a similar amount to be raised by the state. Any portion of the \$800 appropriation not used will be refunded to the county annually, it was stated. The service provides for the employment of one full-time forester who has the power to call into service as many men as are necessary to handle emergencies. It is possible that CCC boys will be used in the county for a short while to cut fire lanes and district the territory. Complete details on the project will not be available within the next week or two, it is understood.

The routine work at the regular meeting included the inspection of various reports, approval of bills and the hearing of pleas from the poor. Wiley Perkins, colored of Williamston, was allowed \$2.50 a month, and Mary Jefferson, colored, of Jamesville, was allowed \$1.50 a month.

Classes for Midwives Will Be Held This Week by State Nurse

Hold Classes at Jamesville, Hamilton, Williamston and Robersonville

A series of classes for midwives will be held in this county this week, beginning tomorrow morning at 10 a. m. in the colored school at Jamesville. Classes will be held in other communities, as follows: Hamilton colored school building, at 10 a. m. Thursday; Robersonville, Friday at the same hour; and in the county courthouse Saturday morning at 10 o'clock.

Mrs. Margaret Sloan, state nurse, will be in charge of the classes held under the direction of the North Carolina State Board of Health.

All practicing midwives and others wishing permits to practice are requested to attend one or more of these classes. Grade A permits to practice will be issued those women who bring midwife bags and necessary equipment, and show a written report from a doctor showing a negative Wassermann, or blood test.

Special arrangements will be made to handle class instruction for practicing white midwives, Mrs. Sloan stated.

Special class instruction for midwives offered in this county in previous years has been of great value, and it is hoped that the classes getting under way again this week will be well attended.